Charging of interest from farmers on Bank Loans

1614. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to Reserve Bank of India's circular of 15th March, 1984 all commercial banks have been directed to ensure that the interest on loans to small and marginal farmers never exceed the principal;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that legal action was taken against 14 farmers of Sri Kalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh for failing to repay agricultural loan, exceeding the principal taken from State Bank of India;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what remedial steps are being taken to help these poor farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India has issued instructions to all commercial banks that interest debited to an account should not exceed the principal amount in respect of short-term advances to small and marginal farmers.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected from State Bank of India and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Confiscated arms with Punjab Government

1615. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of confiscated arms of different types lying with the Punjab Government;

(b) the number of weapons of different types that have been confiscated by the Government of Punjab since 1984;

(c) the names of persons who have been allotted different types of confiscated weapons in Punjab since 1984 and the reasons for the allotment;

(d) the names of persons whose request for allotment of confiscated weapons made since 1984 have been rejected and the reasons therefor;

(e) the price (cost) of different types of weapons confiscated by Punjab Government; and

(f) what is the policy of Government in respect of allotment of confiscated weapons of P'bore and N.P. bore types?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (f) The enforcement of the Arms Act, 1959 is the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administrations to whom powers in this behalf are delegated.

2. According to available information 4826 fire arms of various types were recovered by Govt. of Punjab during the period from 1-10-85 to 26-7-88. Details about allotment/non-allotment of such weapons and reasons therefor and the assessed value of such weapons are not available. Central Govt., has not framed any guidelines for allotment of confiscated prohibited bore or non-prohibited bore weapons.

Textile Mills in the country

1616. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of textile mills in the country as on March 13, 1988;

(b) what is the total production of cloth in the country by the textile mills during the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(c) what is the number of workers working in these mills during this period; and